

REMARKS

The Office Action dated 2/11/08 recorded the following status of claims in this application. Claims 1 – 17 and 19 - 21 were cited as pending in the application. The Applicant notes that Claim 11 was previously cancelled by the Applicant. Claims 1 – 14, 7, and 19 - 21 were rejected. Claims 15 and 16 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The Examiner states that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. This amendment cancels Claims 15 and 17 – 21 and amends Claim 1 and 16. The Applicant reserves the right to file the canceled claims in one or more divisional or continuation applications, or to reintroduce the cancelled claims under a future amendment to this application. Reconsideration of this application is requested in view of these changes and the remarks presented below.

Claims

Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the limitation of Claim 15.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §102(b) – [US Patent No. 5,819,454 to Rosenitsch]

Claims 1 – 3, 5, 9, 11 – 14, 17 and 19 were rejected as being anticipated by US Patent No. 5,819,454 to Rosenitsch (hereinafter “Rosenitsch”)

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of Claim 15 which the Examiner stated would be allowable if amended to incorporate the limitations of its independent claim and all intervening claims. This amendment of Claim 1 fulfills that requirement.

Claims 2, 3, 5, 9 and 12 – 14 are submitted herewith as allowable by virtue at least in part of their dependency upon an allowable claim, Claim 1.

Claim 11 was previously cancelled by the Applicant.

Claims 17 and 19 are cancelled herewith.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103(a) – [US Patent No. 5,819,454 to Rosenitsch in view of US Patent No. 4,754,202 to Havel]

Claims 7 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 5,819,454 to Rosenitsch in view of US Patent No. 4,754,202 to Havel)

Claim 7 is submitted herewith as allowable by virtue at least in part of its dependency upon an allowable claim, Claim 1.

Claim 21 is cancelled.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103(a) – [US Patent No. 5,819,454 to Rosenitsch in view of French Patent No. FR 2,563,929 to Thery]

Claims 4, 6, 8, and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 5,819,454 to Rosenitsch in view of French Patent No. FR 2,563,929 to Thery.

Claims 4, 6, and 8 are submitted herewith as allowable by virtue at least in part of their dependency upon an allowable claim, Claim 1.

Claim 20 is cancelled.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103(a) – [US Patent No. 5,819,454 to Rosenitsch in view of German Patent No. DE 10006164 to Heidelberg]

Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 5,819,454 to Rosenitsch in view of German Patent No. DE 10006164 to Heidelberg.

Claim 10 is submitted herewith as allowable by virtue at least in part of its dependency upon an allowable claim, Claim 1.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 15 and 16 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected claim. The Examiner stated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. This is noted with appreciation. The limitations of Claim 15 have been incorporated into Claim 1 and Claim 16 is currently amended to depend from currently amended Claim 1.

Conclusion

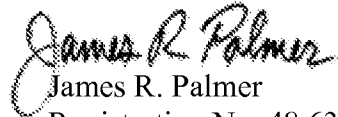
The Examiner's findings have been carefully reviewed and in view of this submittal the Applicant(s) believe(s) that the claims are in a form requiring allowance, and such action is earnestly requested. If the Examiner believes that a telephone call would expedite the early disposition of this application, a call to the undersigned is respectfully requested.

In the event this response is not timely filed, Applicant(s) hereby petition for the appropriate extension of time and request that the fee for the extension along with any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper be charged to our Deposit Account No. 12-2355.

Respectfully submitted,

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